

APPENDIX RECIPROCAL COMPENSATION (AFTER FCC ORDER NO. 01-131)

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APPENDIX RECIPROCAL COMPENSATION

1. APPENDIX SCOPE OF TERM

- 1.1 This Appendix sets forth the terms and conditions for Reciprocal Compensation of intercarrier telecommunications traffic between ILEC and CLEC, but only to the extent they are interconnected and exchanging calls pursuant to a fully executed, underlying Interconnection Agreement approved by the applicable state or federal regulatory agency for telecommunications traffic in this state.
- 1.2 The compensation arrangement for the joint provision of Feature Group A (FGA) Services shall be subject to the underlying Interconnection Agreement or as otherwise mutually agreed by the Parties.
- 1.3 The provisions of this Appendix apply to calls originated over the originating carrier's facilities or over Unbundled Network Elements.
- 1.4 The provisions of this Appendix do not apply to traffic originated over services provided under local Resale service.
- 1.5 Any inconsistencies between the provisions of this Appendix and other provisions of the underlying Interconnection Agreement shall be governed by the provisions of this Appendix.
- 1.6 The Parties agree that this Appendix governs the exchange, routing and rating of all intercarrier ISP and Internet-bound traffic between ILEC and CLEC in this state. The terms "ISPs" and "Internet" shall be given the same meaning as used in the underlying Agreement, and if not defined there, shall be given the same meaning as found in the ISP Compensation Order and the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

2. ILEC DESIGNATIONS

- 2.1 **SBC Communications Inc. (SBC)** means the holding company which owns the following ILECs: Illinois Bell Telephone Company, Indiana Bell Telephone Company Incorporated, Michigan Bell Telephone Company d/b/a Ameritech Michigan, Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a SBC Nevada Bell Telephone Company, The Ohio Bell Telephone Company, Pacific Bell Telephone Company d/b/a SBC Pacific Bell Telephone Company, The Southern New England Telephone Company, Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P. d/b/a Southwestern Bell Telephone Company and Wisconsin Bell, Inc. d/b/a Ameritech Wisconsin.
- 2.2 **SBC-13STATE** - As used herein, **SBC-13STATE** means the applicable above listed ILEC(s) doing business in Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, and Wisconsin.
- 2.3 **SBC-12STATE** - As used herein, **SBC-12STATE** means the applicable above listed ILEC(s) doing business in Arkansas, California, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, and Wisconsin.
- 2.4 **SBC-AMERITECH** - As used herein, **SBC-AMERITECH** means the applicable above listed ILEC(s) doing business in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin.
- 2.5 **SBC-SWBT** - As used herein, **SBC-SWBT** means the applicable above listed ILEC(s) doing business in Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas.
- 2.6 **SWBT-MO** - As used herein, **SWBT-MO** means the applicable above listed ILEC doing business in Missouri.
- 2.7 **SWBT-OK** - As used herein, **SWBT-OK** means the applicable above listed ILEC doing business in Oklahoma.
- 2.8 **SWBT-KS** - As used herein, **SWBT-KS** means the applicable above listed ILEC doing business in Kansas.

- 2.9 **SWBT-AR**-As used herein, **SWBT-AR** means the applicable above listed ILEC doing business in Arkansas.
- 2.10 **SWBT-TX** - As used herein, **SWBT-TX** means the applicable above listed ILEC doing business in Texas.
- 2.11 **PACIFIC** - As used herein, **PACIFIC** means the applicable above listed ILEC doing business in California.
- 2.12 **NEVADA** - As used herein, **NEVADA** means the applicable above listed ILEC doing business in Nevada.
- 2.13 **SNET** - As used herein, **SNET** means the applicable above listed ILEC doing business in Connecticut.

3. **CLASSIFICATION OF TRAFFIC**

- 3.1 Telecommunications traffic exchanged between CLEC and ILEC will be classified as either Local Calls, Transit Traffic, Optional Calling Area Traffic, IntraLATA Toll Traffic, or InterLATA Toll Traffic. For purposes of this Appendix, calls to ISPs will be rated and routed according to these same classifications, depending on the physical location of the originating and terminating end users.
- 3.2 For purposes of this Appendix, until such time that ILEC may choose to invoke the FCC's ISP pricing plan as ordered in FCC 01-131, the Parties agree that "Local Calls" and "Local ISP Calls" will be compensated at the same rates and rate structures, depending on the End Office or Tandem serving arrangement, so long as the originating end user of one Party and the terminating end user or ISP of the other Party are:
- a. both physically located in the same ILEC Local Exchange Area as defined by the ILEC Local (or "General") Exchange Tariff on file with the applicable state commission or regulatory agency; or
 - b. both physically located within neighboring ILEC Local Exchange Areas, or within an ILEC exchange and an Independent LEC exchange, that are within the same common mandatory local calling area. This includes but is not limited to, mandatory Extended Area Service (EAS), mandatory Extended Local Calling Service (ELCS), or other types of mandatory expanded local calling scopes.
- 3.3 The Parties agree that, notwithstanding the classification of traffic under this Appendix, either Party is free to define its own "local" calling area(s) for purposes of its provision of telecommunications services to its end users.
- 3.4 When an End User originates a Local Call which terminates to an End User physically located in the same local exchange area and served on the other Party's physical switch or, if operating in **SBC-12STATE**, through the other Party's Unbundled Network Element (UNE) switch port, the originating Party shall compensate the terminating Party for the transport and termination of Local Calls at the rate(s) provided in this Appendix and Appendix Pricing. In **SNET**, calls originated over UNEs are not subject to reciprocal compensation since the rates for unbundled local switching reflect and include the costs of call termination.
- 3.5 The Parties' obligation to pay reciprocal compensation to each other shall commence on the date the Parties agree that the interconnection is complete (i.e., each Party has established its originating trunks as well as all ancillary traffic trunking such as Operator Services, 911 or Mass Calling trunks).
- 3.6 The compensation arrangements set forth in this Appendix are not applicable to (i) Exchange Access traffic, (ii) Information Service traffic, (iii) traffic originated by one Party on a number ported to its network that terminates to another number ported on that same Party's network or (iv) any other type of traffic found to be exempt from reciprocal compensation by the FCC or the Commission, with the exception of calls to ISPs, which are addressed in this Appendix. All Exchange Access traffic and IntraLATA Toll Traffic shall continue to be governed by the terms and conditions of applicable federal and state tariffs.
- 3.7 Calls delivered to or from numbers that are assigned to an exchange within a common mandatory local calling area but where the receiving or calling party is physically located outside the common mandatory local calling area of the exchange to which the number is assigned are either Feature Group A (FGA) or Foreign Exchange (FX) and are not Local Calls for intercarrier compensation and are not subject to local reciprocal compensation.

- 3.8 Private Line Services include private line-like and special access services and are not subject to local reciprocal compensation. Private Line Services are defined as dedicated Telecommunications channels provided between two points or switched among multiple points and are used for voice, data, audio or video transmission. Private Line services include, but are not limited to, WATS access lines.
- 3.9 Reciprocal Compensation applies to Local Calls that are terminated at either Party's terminating circuit switch. Traffic that is delivered via dedicated circuits, private line services or Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) service to a LEC or ISP and not terminated at a circuit switch is not subject to intercarrier compensation.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

- 4.1 Each Party to this Appendix will be responsible for the accuracy and quality of its data as submitted to the respective Parties involved.
- 4.2 Where SS7 connections exist, each Party will include in the information transmitted to the other for each call being terminated on the other's network, where available, the original and true Calling Party Number (CPN).
- 4.3 If one Party is passing CPN but the other Party is not properly receiving information, the Parties will work cooperatively to correct the problem.
- 4.4 Where SS7 connections exist, calls originated by one party and terminated by the other, if the percentage of calls passed with CPN is greater than ninety percent (90%), all calls exchanged without CPN information will be billed as either Local Traffic or intraLATA Toll Traffic in direct proportion to the minutes of use (MOU) of calls exchanged with CPN information. If the percentage of calls passed with CPN is less than ninety percent (90%), all calls passed without CPN will be billed as intraLATA switched access.
- 4.5 Where the Parties are performing a transiting function as defined in Section 9.0 below, the transiting Party will pass the original and true CPN if it is received from the originating third party. If the original and true CPN is not received from the originating third party, the Party performing the transiting function can not forward the CPN and will not be billed as the default originator.

5. LOCAL CALL TERMINATION

- 5.1 Until and unless ILEC chooses to invoke the FCC's pricing plan as ordered in FCC 01-131, the compensation set forth below will also apply to all Local and Local ISP Calls as defined in section 3.2 of this Appendix, depending on whether the call is terminated directly to an End Office or through a Tandem.
- 5.2 Bifurcated Rates (Call Set Up and Call Duration). The Parties agree to compensate each other for the termination of Local Calls and Local ISP Calls on a "bifurcated" basis, meaning assessing an initial Call Set Up charge on a per Message basis, and then assessing a separate Call Duration charge on a per Minute of Use (MOU) basis, where ever per Message charges are applicable. The following rate elements apply, but the corresponding rates are shown in Appendix Pricing:
- 5.3 Tandem Serving Rate Elements:
 - 5.3.1 Tandem Switching - compensation for the use of tandem switching (only) functions.
 - 5.3.2 Tandem Transport - compensation for the transmission facilities between the local tandem and the end offices subtending that tandem.
 - 5.3.3 End Office Switching in a Tandem Serving Arrangement - compensation for the local end office switching and line termination functions necessary to complete the transmission in a tandem-served arrangement. It consists of a call set-up rate (per message) and a call duration (per minute) rate.

5.4 End Office Serving Rate Elements:

5.4.1 End Office Switching - compensation for the local end office switching and line termination functions necessary to complete the transmission in an end office serving arrangement. It consists of a call set-up rate (per message) and a call duration (per minute) rate.

5.5 All ISP and Internet-bound traffic shall be subject to the same terms and conditions regarding switch recordings, Calling Party Number (CPN) signaling, and other usage detail as for other Local Calls under this Appendix. Minutes of use to ISPs may be shown separately on the monthly usage detail, invoices, payment summaries, or other documents exchanged between ILEC and CLEC in the monthly billing cycle.

5.6 All ISP and Internet-bound traffic for a given usage month shall be due and owing at the same time as payments for Local Calls under this Appendix. The parties agree that all terms and conditions regarding disputed minutes of use, nonpayment, partial payment, late payment, interest on outstanding balances, or other billing and payment terms shall apply to ISP and Internet-bound traffic the same as for Local Calls under this Appendix.

6. **NON-LOCAL CALL TERMINATION**

6.1 The Parties recognize and agree that ISP and Internet-bound traffic could also be traded outside of the applicable local calling scope, or routed in ways that could make the rates and rate structure in Section 5 above not apply, including but not limited to ISP calls that fit the underlying Agreement's definitions of:

- Transit Traffic
- Optional EAS Traffic
- IntraLATA Interexchange Traffic
- InterLATA Interexchange Traffic
- 800, 888, 877, ("8yy") Traffic
- Feature Group A Traffic
- Feature Group D Traffic

6.2 The Parties agree that, for the purposes of this Appendix, either Parties' end users remain free to place ISP calls on a "Non-Local" basis under any of the above classifications. To the extent such "non-Local" ISP calls are placed, the Parties agree that section 5 above does not apply, and that the Agreement's rates, terms and conditions for IntraLATA and/or InterLATA calling shall apply, including but not limited to rating and routing according to the terminating parties' Exchange Access intrastate and/or interstate tariffs.

6.3 The Parties agree that physical interconnection, routing, and trunking of ISP calls on an Inter-Exchange basis, either IntraLATA or InterLATA, shall be as specified in the Agreement for all other traffic exchanged, including but not limited to, the need to route over Meet Point Billed trunks.

7. **OPTIONAL CALLING AREA TRAFFIC -- SWBT-OK, KS, AR, TX**

7.1 Compensation for Optional Calling Area (OCA) Traffic is for the termination of intercompany traffic to and from the one-way or two-way optional exchanges(s) and the associated metropolitan area.

7.2 In the context of this Appendix, Optional Calling Areas (OCAs) exist only in the states of Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas, and Texas, and are outlined in the applicable state Local Exchange tariffs. This rate is independent of any retail service arrangement established by either Party. CLEC and **SWBT-OK, SWBT-KS, SWBT-AR, and SWBT-TX** are not precluded from establishing its own local calling areas or prices for purposes of retail telephone service; however the terminating rates to be used for any such offering will still be administered as described in this Appendix.

7.3 The state specific OCA Transport and Termination rates are outlined in Appendix Pricing.

8. **MCA TRAFFIC -- SBC-MO**

- 8.1 For compensation purposes in the state of Missouri, Local Traffic shall be further defined as "Metropolitan Calling Area (MCA) Traffic" and "Non-MCA Traffic." MCA Traffic is traffic originated by a party providing a local calling scope plan pursuant to the Missouri Public Service Commission Orders in Case No. TO-92-306 and Case No. TO-99-483 (MCA Orders) and the call is a local call based on the calling scope of the originating party pursuant to the MCA Orders. Non-MCA Traffic is all Local Traffic that is not defined as MCA Traffic.
- 8.1.1 Either party providing Metropolitan Calling Area (MCA) service shall offer the full calling scope prescribed in Case No. TO-92-306, without regard to the identity of the called party's local service provider. The parties may offer additional toll-free outbound calling or other services in conjunction with MCA service, but in any such offering the party shall not identify any calling scope other than that prescribed in Case No. TO-92-306 as "MCA" service.
- 8.1.2 Pursuant to the Missouri Public Service Commission Order in Case No. TO-99-483, MCA Traffic shall be exchanged on a bill-and-keep intercompany compensation basis meaning that the party originating a call defined as MCA Traffic shall not compensate the terminating party for terminating the call. Furthermore, the Transit Traffic rate element shall not apply to MCA Traffic (i.e., no transiting charges shall be assessed for MCA Traffic).
- 8.2 The parties agree to use the Local Exchange Routing Guide (LERG) to provision the appropriate MCA NXXs in their networks. The LERG should be updated at least 45 days in advance of opening a new code to allow the other party the ability to make the necessary network modifications. If the Commission orders the parties to use an alternative other than the LERG, the parties will comply with the Commission's final order.
- 8.3 If CLEC provides service via resale or in conjunction with ported numbers in the MCA, the appropriate MCA NXXs will be updated by SWBT.

9. **TRANSIT TRAFFIC COMPENSATION**

- 9.1 Transiting Service allows one Party to send Local, Optional, intraLATA Toll Traffic, and 800 intraLATA Toll Traffic to a third party network through the other Party's tandem. A Transiting rate element applies to all MOUs between a Party and third party networks that transits an **SBC-13STATE** network. The originating Party is responsible for payment of the appropriate rates unless otherwise specified. The Transiting rate element is only applicable when calls do not originate with (or terminate to) the transit Party's End User. Pursuant to the Missouri Public Service Commission Order in Case No. TO-99-483, the Transit Traffic rate element shall not apply to MCA Traffic (i.e., no transiting charges shall be assessed for MCA Traffic) for **SWBT-MO**. The rates that **SBC-13STATE** shall charge for transiting CLEC traffic are outlined in Appendix Pricing.
- 9.2 The Parties agree to enter into their own agreement with third party Telecommunications Carriers prior to delivering traffic for transiting to the third party. In the event one Party originates traffic that transits the second Party's network to reach a third party Telecommunications Carrier with whom the originating Party does not have a traffic Interexchange agreement, then originating Party will indemnify the second Party against any and all charges levied by such third party telecommunications carrier, including any termination charges related to such traffic and any attorneys fees and expenses. The terminating party and the tandem provider will bill their respective portions of the charges directly to the originating party, and neither the terminating party nor the tandem provider will be required to function as a billing intermediary, e.g. clearinghouse.
- 9.3 The CLEC shall not bill **SBC-13STATE** for terminating any Transit traffic, whether identified or unidentified, i.e. whether **SBC-13STATE** is sent CPN or is not sent CPN by the originating company.

- 9.4 In those **SBC-13STATEs** where Primary Toll Carrier (PTC) arrangements are mandated, for intraLATA Toll Traffic which is subject to a PTC arrangement and where **SBC-13STATE** is the PTC, **SBC-13STATE** shall deliver such intraLATA Toll Traffic to the terminating carrier in accordance with the terms and conditions of such PTC arrangement. Upon receipt of verifiable Primary Toll records, **SBC-13STATE** shall reimburse the terminating carrier at **SBC-13STATE's** applicable tariffed terminating switched access rates. When transport mileage cannot be determined, an average transit transport mileage shall be applied as set forth in Appendix Pricing.
- 9.5 CLEC will establish sufficient direct trunk groups between CLEC and a Third Party's network when CLEC's traffic volumes to said Third Party require twenty-four (24) or more trunks.

10. **OPTIONAL CALLING AREA TRANSIT TRAFFIC -- SWBT-MO, SWBT-KS, SWBT-AR, SWBT-TX**

- 10.1 In the states of Texas, Missouri, Kansas, and Arkansas, the Optional Area Transit Traffic rate element applies when one End User is in a **SBC-SWBT** one-way or two-way optional exchange and the other End User is within the **SWBT-KS**, **SWBT-AR**, and/or **SWBT-TX** local or mandatory exchanges. The Parties agree to apply the Optional Area Transit rate to traffic terminating to third party Independent LEC that shares a common mandatory local calling area with all **SWBT-MO**, **SWBT-KS**, **SWBT-AR**, and **SWBT-TX** exchanges included in a specific metropolitan exchange area. The Optional Area Transit Traffic rates that will be billed are outlined in Appendix Pricing. The specific NXXs and associated calling scopes can be located in the applicable state Local Exchange tariff.

11. **INTRALATA 800 TRAFFIC**

- 11.1 The Parties shall provide to each other intraLATA 800 Access Detail Usage Data for Customer billing and intraLATA 800 Copy Detail Usage Data for access billing in Exchange Message Interface (EMI) format. On a monthly basis the Parties agree to provide this data to each other at no charge. In the event of errors, omissions, or inaccuracies in data received from either Party, the liability of the Party providing such data shall be limited to the provision of corrected data only. If the originating Party does not send an End User billable record to the terminating Party, the originating Party will not bill the terminating Party any interconnection charges for this traffic.
- 11.2 IntraLATA 800 Traffic calls are billed to and paid for by the called or terminating Party, regardless of which Party performs the 800 query. Billing shall be based on originating and terminating NPA/NXX.

12. **MEET POINT BILLING (MPB) and SWITCHED ACCESS TRAFFIC COMPENSATION**

- 12.1 Inter-carrier compensation for Switched Access Traffic shall be on a Meet Point Billing ("MPB") basis as described below.
- 12.2 The Parties will establish MPB arrangements in order to provide Switched Access Services via the respective carrier's Tandem Office Switch in accordance with the MPB guidelines contained in the Ordering and Billing Forum's MECOD and MECAB documents, as amended from time to time.
- 12.3 Billing for the Switched Exchange Access Services jointly provided by the Parties via MPB arrangements shall be according to the multiple bill/single tariff method. As described in the MECAB document, each Party will render a bill in accordance with its own tariff for that portion of the service it provides. Each Party will bill its own network access service rates. The residual interconnection charge (RIC), if any, will be billed by the Party providing the end office function.
- 12.4 The Parties will maintain provisions in their respective federal and state access tariffs, or provisions within the National Exchange Carrier Association (NECA) Tariff No. 4, or any successor tariff, sufficient to reflect this MPB arrangement, including MPB percentages.
- 12.5 As detailed in the MECAB document, the Parties will exchange all information necessary to accurately, reliably and promptly bill third parties for Switched Access Services traffic jointly handled by the Parties via

- the Meet Point Billing arrangement. Information shall be exchanged in a mutually acceptable electronic file transfer protocol. Where the EMI records cannot be transferred due to a transmission failure, records can be provided via a mutually acceptable medium. The exchange of Access Usage Records ("AURs") to accommodate MPB will be on a reciprocal, no charge basis. Each Party agrees to provide the other Party with AURs based upon mutually agreed upon intervals.
- 12.6 MPB shall also apply to all jointly provided Switched Access MOU traffic bearing the 900, or toll free NPAs (e.g., 800, 877, 866, 888 NPAs, or any other non-geographic NPAs). The Party that performs the SSP function (launches the query to the 800 database) will bill the 800 Service Provider for this function.
- 12.7 Each Party will act as the Official Recording Company for switched access usage when it is jointly provided between the Parties. As described in the MECAB document, the Official Recording Company for tandem routed traffic is: (1) the end office company for originating traffic, (2) the tandem company for terminating traffic and (3) the SSP company for originating 800 traffic.
- 12.8 **SBC-13STATE** and CLEC agree to provide the other Party with notification of any discovered errors in the record exchange process within ten (10) business days of the discovery.
- 12.9 In the event of a loss of data, both Parties shall cooperate to reconstruct the lost data within sixty (60) days of notification and if such reconstruction is not possible, shall accept a reasonable estimate of the lost data, based upon no more than three (3) to twelve (12) consecutive months of prior usage data.

13. INTRALATA TOLL TRAFFIC COMPENSATION

- 13.1 For intrastate intraLATA toll traffic, compensation for termination of intercompany traffic will be at terminating access rates for Message Telephone Service (MTS) and originating access rates for 800 Service, including the Carrier Common Line (CCL) charge where applicable, as set forth in each Party's Intrastate Access Service Tariff, but not to exceed the compensation contained in an ILEC's tariff in whose exchange area the End User is located. For interstate intraLATA intercompany service traffic, compensation for termination of intercompany traffic will be at terminating access rates for MTS and originating access rates for 800 Service including the CCL charge, as set forth in each Party's interstate Access Service Tariff, but not to exceed the compensation contained in the ILEC's tariff in whose exchange area the End User is located. Common transport, (both fixed and variable), as well as tandem switching and end office rates apply only in those cases where a Party's tandem is used to terminate traffic.

14. BILLING FOR MUTUAL COMPENSATION -- **SBC-SWBT**

- 14.1 In **SBC-SWBT** other than for traffic described in Section 6.0 above, each Party shall deliver monthly settlement statements for terminating the other Party's traffic based on the following:
- 14.2 Each Party shall, unless otherwise agreed, adhere to the detailed technical descriptions and requirements for the recording, record exchange, and billing of traffic using the guidelines as set forth in the Technical Exhibit Settlement Procedures (TESP). Each Party will transmit the summarized originating minutes of usage within fifteen (15) business days following the prior month's close of business for all traffic including local, transiting, and optional EAS via the 92-type record process to the transiting and/or terminating Party for subsequent monthly intercompany settlement billing. This information will also be utilized by the Parties for use in verifying and auditing to confirm the jurisdictional nature of Local Calls and is required from the originating Party under the terms of this Appendix.
- 14.3 If originating records are not received within sixty (60) days, upon written notification the Party not receiving the originating records will bill all MOU for that month at Switched Access rates based upon a seven (7) day traffic study.
- 14.4 The Parties will not render invoice nor payment to each other for the transport and termination of calls for a particular month's usage until both Parties have received the originating 92-type summary records CLEC for that same month's usage.

- 14.5 On a monthly basis, each Party will record its originating MOU including identification of the originating and terminating NXX for all intercompany calls.
- 14.6 Each Party will transmit the summarized originating MOU above to the transiting and/or terminating Party for subsequent monthly intercompany settlement billing.
- 14.7 MOUs will be measured in seconds by call type, and accumulated each billing period into one (1) minute increments for billing purposes in accordance with industry rounding standards.
- 14.8 Where CLEC has direct End Office Switch and Tandem Office Switch interconnection arrangements with **SBC-13STATEs**, **SBC-13STATEs** will multiply the Tandem Office Switch routed terminating MOU and End Office Switch routed terminating MOUs by the appropriate rates in order to determine the total monthly billing to each Party.

15. BILLING FOR MUTUAL COMPENSATION -- **SBC-AMERITECH, NEVADA, PACIFIC, SNET**

- 15.1 In **SBC-AMERITECH, NEVADA, PACIFIC**, and **SNET**, each Party will calculate terminating interconnection minutes of use based on standard Automatic Message Accounting (AMA) recordings made within each Party's network. These recordings are the basis for each Party to generate bills to the other Party. For purposes of reciprocal compensation only, measurement of minutes of use over Local Interconnection Trunk Groups shall be in actual conversation seconds. The total conversation seconds over each individual Local Interconnection Trunk Group will be totaled for the entire monthly bill and then rounded to the next whole minute.
- 15.2 Each Party will provide to the other, within fifteen (15) calendar days, after the end of each quarter, a usage report with the following information regarding traffic terminated over the Local Interconnection Trunks:
 - 15.2.1 Total traffic volume described in terms of minutes and messages and by call type (local, toll, and other) terminated to each other over the Local Interconnection Trunk Groups, and
 - 15.2.1.1 Percent Local Usage (PLU) is calculated by dividing the Local MOU delivered to a party for termination by the total MOU delivered to a Party for termination.
 - 15.2.2 Upon thirty (30) days written notice, each Party must provide the other the ability and opportunity to conduct an annual audit to ensure the proper billing of traffic between the Parties' networks. The Parties agree to retain records of call detail for six (6) months from when the calls were initially reported to the other Party. The audit will be conducted during normal business hours at an office designated by the Party being audited. Audit requests shall not be submitted more frequently than once per calendar year for each call detail type unless a subsequent audit is required. Audits shall be performed by a mutually acceptable independent auditor paid for by the Party requesting the audit. Based upon the audit, previous compensation, billing and/or settlements will be adjusted for the past twelve (12) months. Also, if the PLU is adjusted based upon the audit results, the adjusted PLU will apply for the nine (9) month period following the completion of the audit. If, as a result of the audit, either Party has overstated the PLU or underreported the call detail usage by twenty percent (20%) or more, that Party shall reimburse the auditing Party for the cost of the audit and will pay for the cost of a subsequent audit which is to happen within nine (9) months of the initial audit.

16. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS AND SPECIFIC INTERVENING LAW TERMS

- 16.1 The Parties acknowledge that on April 27, 2001, the FCC released its Order on Remand and Report and Order in CC Dockets No. 96-98 and 99-68, *In the Matter of the Local Competition Provisions in the Telecommunications Act of 1996; Inter-carrier Compensation for ISP-bound Traffic* (the "ISP Compensation Order"), which was remanded in *WorldCom, Inc. v. FCC*, No. 01-1218 (D.C. Cir. 2002). The Parties agree that by executing this Appendix and carrying out the intercarrier compensation terms and conditions herein, neither Party waives any of its rights, and expressly reserves all of its rights, under the ISP Compensation Order or any other regulatory, legislative or judicial action, including but not limited to the ILEC's option to

- invoke on a date specified by ILEC the FCC's ISP terminating compensation plan, after which date ISP-bound traffic will be subject to the FCC's prescribed terminating compensation rates, and other terms and conditions.
- 16.2 ILEC agrees to provide 20 days advance written notice to the person designated to receive official contract notices in the underlying Interconnection Agreement of the date upon which the ILEC designates that the FCC's ISP terminating compensation plan shall begin in this state. CLEC agrees that on the date designated by ILEC, the Parties will begin billing Reciprocal Compensation to each other at the rates, terms and conditions specified in the FCC's terminating compensation plan.
- 16.3 ILEC and CLEC agree to carry out the FCC terminating compensation plan on the date designated by ILEC without waiving, and expressly reserving, all appellate rights to contest FCC, judicial, legislative, or other regulatory rulings regarding ISP and Internet-bound traffic, including but not limited to, appeals of the FCC's ISP Compensation Order. By agreeing to this Appendix, both Parties reserve the right to advocate their respective positions before courts, state or federal commissions, or legislative bodies.
- 16.4 Should a regulatory agency, court or legislature change or nullify the ILEC's designated date to begin billing under the FCC's ISP terminating compensation plan, then the Parties also agree that any necessary billing true ups, reimbursements, or other accounting adjustments shall be made symmetrically and to the same date that the FCC terminating compensation plan was deemed applicable to all traffic in that state exchanged under section 251(b)(5) of the Act. By way of interpretation, and without limiting the application of the foregoing, the Parties intend for retroactive compensation adjustments, to the extent they are ordered by Intervening Law, to apply uniformly to all traffic among ILEC, CLEC and Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) carriers in the state where traffic is exchanged as Local Calls within the meaning of this Appendix.
- 16.5 The Parties further acknowledge that federal or state court challenges could be sustained against the FCC's ISP Compensation Order in particular, or against ISP intercarrier compensation generally. In particular, a court could order an injunction, stay or other retroactive ruling on ISP compensation back to the effective date of the FCC's ISP Compensation Order. Alternatively, a court could vacate the underlying Order upon which the compensation was based, and the FCC (either on remand or on its own motion) could rule that past traffic should be paid at different rates, terms or conditions.
- 16.6 Because of the possibilities in section 16.5, the Parties agree that should the ISP Compensation Order be modified or reversed in such a manner that prior intercarrier compensation was paid under rates, terms or conditions later found to be null and void, then the Parties agree that, in addition to negotiating appropriate amendments to conform to such modification or reversal, the Parties will also agree that any billing true ups, reimbursements, or other accounting adjustments on past traffic shall be made uniformly and on the same date as for all traffic exchanged under section 251(b)(5) of the Act. By way of interpretation, and without limiting the application of the foregoing, the Parties intend for retroactive compensation adjustments, to apply to all traffic among ILEC, CLEC, and CMRS carriers in the state where traffic is exchanged as Local Calls within the meaning of this Appendix.
- 16.7 The Parties further acknowledge that the FCC has issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on the topic of Intercarrier Compensation generally. See, *In the Matter of Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime*, CC Docket 01-92; established in Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Order No. 01-132, April 27, 2001. In the event that a final, legally binding FCC Order is issued upon the conclusion of that NPRM proceeding and during the term of this Appendix, the Parties agree to conform this Agreement to the compensation procedures set forth in that Order.
- 16.8 The parties agree to that the foregoing terms, and conditions for the exchange of ISP-bound and Internet-bound traffic are subject to all rules, regulations, and interpretations of that traffic as Information Access pursuant to section 201 of the Act and FCC implementing orders, as opposed to sections 251 and 252 of the Act.

- 16.9 The Parties reserve the right to raise the appropriate treatment of Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) or other Internet Telephony traffic under the Dispute Resolution provisions of this Interconnection Agreement. The Parties further agree that this Appendix shall not be construed against either Party as a "meeting of the minds" that VOIP or Internet Telephony traffic is or is not local traffic subject to reciprocal compensation. By entering into the Appendix, both Parties reserve the right to advocate their respective positions before state or federal commissions whether in bilateral complaint dockets, arbitrations under Sec. 252 of the Act, commission established rulemaking dockets, or in any legal challenges stemming from such proceedings.

17. ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 17.1 Legitimately Related Terms. Every interconnection, service and network element provided here shall be subject to all rates, terms and conditions contained in the underlying Interconnection Agreement which are legitimately related to such interconnection, service or network element. Without limiting the general applicability of the foregoing, the following terms and conditions of the General Terms and Conditions are specifically agreed by the Parties to be legitimately related to, and to be applicable to, each interconnection, service and network element provided hereunder: definitions, interpretation, construction and severability; notice of changes; general responsibilities of the Parties; effective date, term and termination; fraud; deposits; billing and payment of charges; non-payment and procedures for disconnection; dispute resolution; audits; disclaimer of representations and warranties; limitation of liability; indemnification; remedies; intellectual property; publicity and use of trademarks or service marks; no license; confidentiality; intervening law; governing law; regulatory approval; changes in End User local exchange service provider selection; compliance and certification; law enforcement; no third party beneficiaries; disclaimer of agency; relationship of the Parties/independent contractor; subcontracting; assignment; responsibility for environmental contamination; force majeure; taxes; non-waiver; network maintenance and management; signaling; transmission of traffic to third parties; customer inquiries; expenses; conflicts of interest; survival; scope of agreement; amendments and modifications; and entire agreement.
- 17.2 Entire Agreement. This Reciprocal Compensation Appendix is intended to be read in conjunction with the underlying Interconnection Agreement between ILEC and CLEC, but that as to the Reciprocal Compensation terms and conditions, this Appendix constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties on these issues, and there are no other oral agreements or understandings between them on Reciprocal Compensation that are not incorporated into this Appendix.